1	2	3	4
6.	Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve	Chhattisgarh	20.00
7.	Sanjay Dubri Tiger Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	25.00
8.	Achanakmar Tiger Reserve	Chhattisgarh	50.00
	TOTAL:		520.00

Elephants of India

†1137. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 100 elephants from India have crossed the border and entered into Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Bangladesh has insisted on their recall or else they would be killed; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No such incident has been reported by any of the bordering State Governments.

(c) Question does not arise.

Pollution in rivers

1138. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution has been increasing in various rivers including Brahmaputra through its tributaries like Bharaba river in Guwahati city;

(b) whether Government has taken any proper steps to stop pollution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Government has taken steps for pollution abatement in the identified stretches of the major rivers. The rivers conservation efforts in this direction commenced with the launching of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) phase-I in the year 1985. GAP Phase-I was extended to GAP phase-II in various stages during 1993-96 to cover various tributaries of the river Ganga. GAP phase-II was merged in late 1996 with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) which presently covers identified polluted stretches of 35 rivers and 164 towns spread over 20 States. The Pollution abatement works undertaken in these towns

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

under NRCP include interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river through open drains and divert them for treatment in Sewage Treatment Plants; Low Cost Sanitation works on river banks; Electric and/or improved wood-crematoria for proper cremation of bodies; River Front Development works, Public Participation and Awareness programmes etc. As per the Water Quality Monitoring undertaken through reputed independent Institutions, water quality in the river Ganga has improved in terms of values of the Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) compared to pre-GAP period. Similarly in the case of Yamuna, the water quality is conforming to the prescribed limits except for the stretch of Delhi and parts of Uttar Pradesh mainly due to extraction of water from Yamuna for drinking purposes.

River conservation is a mammoth task requiring involvement of all the stakeholders. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in creation of civic infrastructure for sewage management and disposal etc. by providing grant for capital works in the identified polluted stretches. There are also other Central programmes presently in operation under the Union Ministry of Urban Development, namely, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT), for supplementing the efforts of the State Governments and Urban Local Bodies by provision of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) as per guidelines of these programmes. Sewerage and sewage treatment (*i.e.* domestic wastewater treatment) are among the admissible components under these programmes. The Government has also initiated an exercise for revamping the river conservation strategy to promote a holistic and integrated approach.

The rivers taken up for pollution abatement works under NRCP do not include the river Brahamaputra. The water quality of the river, as per the available reports conforms to the prescribed bathing standards under NRCP for organic pollution level.

Green house gases

1139. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not a fact that new cars in India are emitting more greenhouse gases than older models are pushing up emission in Delhi above by 72 per cent as per the Centre for Science and Environment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that emission of Carbon-di-Oxide is linked to fuel efficiency of vehicles; and

(c) if so, in what manner his Ministry is planning to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As this is a recent analysis report done by Centre for Science and Environment based on pollution data, the report needs to be examined to ascertain facts and implications thereof. The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.